

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY
AND
NEGATIVE DECLARATION
FOR

GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR
ON-SITE STORAGE AND OFF-SITE DISPOSAL OF
WASTEWATER GENERATED BY SMALL WINERIES

JANUARY 2003

CONTENTS

SECTION I – Project Description
SECTION II – Initial Study with Environmental Checklist
SECTION III – Negative Declaration
SECTION IV – Certificate of Fee Exemption

Figure

Follows Page

Figure 1 – Central Valley Region Map

II-1

SECTION I

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Title

GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR ON-SITE STORAGE AND OFF-SITE DISPOSAL OF WASTEWATER GENERATED BY SMALL WINERIES

Project Description

The project is the adoption of general waste discharge requirements (General Order) under California Water Code Section 13263(i). The General Order authorizes the storage of winery wastewater/residual solids, off-site disposal of winery wastewater/residual solids, and land application of winery residual solids on land controlled by the producing winery. The General Order does not apply to domestic wastewater generated at wineries nor to waste produced by agricultural operations associated with the growing of wine grapes.

The project does not encompass or authorize the construction of wineries or winery wastewater treatment and disposal systems. Any wineries with wastewater systems subject to regulation under the General Order that are constructed after the date of this Negative Declaration must undergo a separate environmental analysis to be completed by the agency issuing the use and/or building permits.

A copy of the General Order can be downloaded from the Regional Board's web site at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb5>.

Lead Agency

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region

Contact Person

Wendy Wyels, Chief
Waste Discharge to Land Unit
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region
3443 Router Road, Suite A
Sacramento, CA 95827-3003
(916) 255-3135

SECTION II

INITIAL STUDY WITH ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The proposed project is the adoption of general waste discharge requirements to regulate certain waste management activities at wineries.

Background

There are more than 320 wineries currently operating within the Central Valley Region, and more wineries are being built each year. Figure 1 is a map depicting the jurisdictional area of the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region. Winery waste includes, but is not limited to: pomace (i.e., grape skins, stems, seeds); lees (wine sediment); wastewater generated during tank cleaning, barrel washing, equipment washing, floor and pad washing, and crush activities; and water softener waste brine. During wine production, chemicals may be used, such as tartaric acid, diammonium phosphate, potassium metabisulfite, bentonite, diatomaceous earth, potassium bitartrate, calcium hypochlorite, and citric acid. These compounds become part of the winery waste stream, increasing the salinity of the wastewater. Additionally, winery wastewater often contains high concentrations of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) and nitrogen.

Many smaller wineries have determined that it may be cost prohibitive to build a system to treat winery wastewater sufficiently to allow long-term land discharge without degrading surface water or groundwater quality. In such cases, it is more cost effective to store the wastewater in a holding tank and periodically transport the wastewater to an authorized disposal facility. The intent of the General Order is to regulate only those wineries that (a) store their process wastewater on-site and later dispose of it off-site at an appropriate facility and (b) dispose of winery waste solids to land according to requirements that will prevent degradation of waters of the state and nuisance conditions. Wineries that discharge their process wastewater to land will not be regulated under the General Order.

Dischargers covered under the General Order will contain all winery wastewater in an engineered storage tank before it is hauled off-site for treatment and disposal. Residual solids (pomace and dewatered lees) may be disposed of on-site by land application at agronomic rates.

Environmental Setting

Wineries potentially regulated under the General Order are located within the jurisdiction of the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, which includes all or parts of Alameda, Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Kern, Kings, Lake, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Modoc, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Shasta, Sierra, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare, Tuolumne, Yolo, and Yuba Counties.

Wineries within the Central Valley Region are typically in agricultural areas where grapes are grown, and many are outside the boundaries of community sewer systems. Within the Central Valley Region, site-specific environmental conditions vary widely. However, because the project involves regulation of wastewater storage and disposal where minimal regulation currently exists to protect environmental quality, it is not necessary to provide a detailed description of the environmental setting.

Purpose of the Initial Study

The purpose of this Initial Study is to:

1. Disclose and analyze potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project;
2. Determine whether an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required;
3. Determine what mitigation measures, if any, are necessary to support a Negative Declaration; and
4. Provide the necessary California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Most of the wineries that have expressed interest in obtaining coverage under the General Order are small wineries that produce less than 2,000 cases of wine per year and/or generate less than 10,000 gallons of wastewater per month on average. However, although it is anticipated that only small wineries will apply for coverage, the applicability of the General Order is not based on the size of the winery to allow individual business owners to decide for themselves the most cost-effective means of managing their waste. To be covered, the winery must submit a report of waste discharge in the form of a Notice of Intent and must receive a Notice of Applicability prior to discharge.

For existing wineries, use of existing underground storage systems (e.g., septic tanks) would be allowed provided that no domestic wastewater is discharged to the tanks and it has been demonstrated that the tanks have been sealed to prevent unauthorized discharge to leachfields or other land disposal areas.

Above-ground storage tanks (AGTs) are preferred and must be used for all facilities constructed after the date of adoption of the General Order. AGTs may be constructed from plastic, metal, concrete, or any combination of durable materials that will provide an impervious containment system. Storage systems must be designed to facilitate removal of the waste without spillage during transfer.

Off-site disposal methods for residual solids such as pomace and dewatered lees may include any combination of appropriately permitted waste disposal facilities (e.g., landfill, publicly owned treatment works, residuals processing facility, composting facility). Solids may also be used as livestock feed in strict accordance with local ordinances or applied at agronomic rates to land owned by the winery.

Discharge of domestic wastewater to winery wastewater systems is prohibited to prevent public contact with wastewater containing potentially pathogenic organisms. All liquid wastes must be stored in a tank designed to contain them to ensure that no waste is released to land or surface water in violation of the General Order.

Dischargers must use licensed septage haulers to transport liquid wastes to the off-site disposal facilities. to ensure that only qualified haulers using equipment specifically designed to transport liquid wastes without spillage will be involved in the handling and transport of wastes regulated under the General Order

Dischargers obtaining coverage under the General Order must limit land discharge of residual solids to land that is specifically under the Discharger's control, described in the Notice of Intent, and authorized in

the Notice of Applicability to ensure that those performing land application are aware of the requirements of the General Order and that all on-site solids disposal areas are known to the Regional Board.

Because leachate resulting from drying and storage of residual solids is a potential threat to water quality, covered Dischargers are required to:

1. Dry residual solids sufficiently to remove free-draining liquid before land application or use as livestock feed;
2. Perform drying and storage in a contained area from which leachate can be collected for proper disposal off-site;
3. Design drying and/or storage areas to prevent washout due to floods with a 100-year return frequency.

The Monitoring and Reporting Program that accompanies the General Order requires that Dischargers perform a minimal level of monitoring and submit simple semi-annual monitoring reports. Because the character of the waste is known, no sampling and analysis is required.

3.0 DETERMINATION OF PROBABLE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The Environmental Checklist (Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines) follows this page.

4.0 REFERENCES

California Water Code, Section 13263 (a)

California Water Code, Section 13263 (i)

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Sacramento River Basin and the San Joaquin River Basin, Fourth Edition, Sacramento, 1998.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Tulare Lake Basin, Second Edition, Sacramento, 1995.

SECTION III NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project Title

GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR ON-SITE STORAGE AND OFF-SITE DISPOSAL OF WASTEWATER GENERATED BY SMALL WINERIES

Project Description

The project is the adoption of general waste discharge requirements (General Order) under California Water Code Section 13263(i). The General Order authorizes only storage of winery wastewater/residual solids, off-site disposal of winery wastewater/residual solids, and land application of winery residual solids on land controlled by the producing winery. The General Order does not apply to domestic wastewater generated at wineries nor to waste produced by agricultural operations associated with the growing of wine grapes.

The project does not encompass or authorize the construction of wineries or winery wastewater treatment and disposal systems. Any wineries with wastewater systems subject to regulation under the General Order that are constructed after the date of this Negative Declaration must undergo a separate environmental analysis to be completed by the agency issuing the use and/or building permits.

Findings

An Initial Study was prepared for the General Waste Discharge Requirements for On-Site Storage and Off-Site Disposal of Wastewater Generated by Small Wineries. The Initial Study describes the potential environmental impacts, their significance, and mitigation measures. The conclusion of the Initial Study is that the project would not have a have a significant impact on the environment. Additionally, the project involves no potential for any significant adverse effects, either individually or cumulatively, on wildlife resources.

Copies of the Negative Declaration and tentative General Order can be obtained by contacting the Regional Board or downloading the information from the Board's web site at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb5> . Questions or comments should be addressed to:

Wendy Wyels
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region
3443 Routier Road, Suite A
Sacramento, Ca 95829-3003
(916) 255-3135

THOMAS R. PINKOS
Executive Officer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region

Date

SECTION IV

CERTIFICATE OF FEE EXEMPTION

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME CERTIFICATE OF FEE EXEMPTION DE MINIMIS IMPACT FINDING

Project Title

GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR ON-SITE STORAGE AND OFF-SITE DISPOSAL OF WASTEWATER GENERATED BY SMALL WINERIES

Project Description

The project is the adoption of general waste discharge requirements under Section 13263(i) of the California Water Code. The general waste discharge requirements (General Order) authorize only storage of winery wastewater/residual solids, off-site disposal of winery wastewater/residual solids, and land application of winery residual solids on land controlled by the producing winery. The General Order does not apply to domestic wastewater generated at wineries nor to waste produced by agricultural operations associated with the growing of wine grapes.

The project does not encompass or authorize the construction of wineries or winery wastewater treatment and disposal systems. Any wineries with wastewater systems subject to regulation under the General Order that are constructed after the date of this Negative Declaration must undergo a separate environmental analysis to be completed by the agency issuing the use and/or building permits.

Findings of Exemption

The project involves no potential for and significant adverse effect, either individual or cumulative, on wildlife resources.

Certification

I hereby certify that the public agency has made the above finding and that the project will not individually or cumulatively have an adverse effect on wildlife resources, as defined in Section 711.2 of the Fish and Game Code.

THOMAS R. PINKOS
Executive Officer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region

Date

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APPENDIX G

Environmental Checklist Form

1.	Project title: General Order For On-Site Storage and Off-Site Disposal of Wastewater Generated by Small Wineries		
2.	Lead agency name and address: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board 3443 Routier Road, Suite A Sacramento, CA 95827		
3.	Contact person and phone number: Wendy Wyels (916) 255-3135		
4.	Project location: Wineries potentially regulated under the General Order are located within the jurisdiction of the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, which includes all or parts of Alameda, Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Kern, Kings, Lake, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Modoc, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Shasta, Sierra, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare, Tuolumne, Yolo, and Yuba Counties.		
5.	Project sponsor's name and address: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board 3443 Routier Road, Suite A Sacramento, CA 95827		
6.	General plan designation: not applicable	7.	Zoning: various
8.	Description of project: (Describe the whole action involved, including but not limited to later phases of the project, and any secondary, support, or off-site features necessary for its implementation. Attach additional sheets if necessary.) The project involves the adoption of general waste discharge requirements (General Order) under California Water Code Section 13263(i). The General Order authorizes only storage of winery wastewater/residual solids, off-site disposal of winery wastewater/residual solids, and land application of winery residual solids on land controlled by the producing winery. The General Order does not apply to domestic wastewater generated at wineries nor to waste produced by agricultural operations associated with the growing of wine grapes. The project does not encompass or authorize the construction of wineries or winery wastewater treatment and disposal systems.		
9.	Surrounding land uses and setting: Briefly describe the project's surroundings: Wineries are typically located in or near areas zoned for agricultural activities.		

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

	Aesthetics		Agriculture Resources		Air Quality
	Biological Resources		Cultural Resources		Geology /Soils
	Hazards & Hazardous Materials	X	Hydrology / Water Quality		Land Use / Planning
	Mineral Resources		Noise		Population / Housing
	Public Services		Recreation		Transportation/Traffic
X	Utilities / Service Systems		Mandatory Findings of Significance		

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

X	I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
	I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
	I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature

Date

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, "Earlier Analyses," may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures that were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
 - a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant.

Issues:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS -- Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				X
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				X
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?				X
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				X

Finding: No Impact. There will be no aesthetic impact because storage tanks, if visible, will be consistent with the appearance of the winery.

II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				X
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				X
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?				X

Finding: No Impact. The project does not involve development or construction of any winery or other facility. Therefore, there will be no impact on agricultural resources.

III. AIR QUALITY -- Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				X
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?				X

c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?				X
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?				X
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				X

Finding: Less Than Significant Impact. Neither discharges of winery residual solids to land nor storage of winery wastewater in engineered storage vessels involve air pollutant emissions, and therefore air quality impacts are unlikely. Depending on the type of storage vessel and duration of storage, odors may be noticeable around the wastewater storage tanks. However, these odors will not adversely affect a substantial number of people.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				X
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				X
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				X
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				X
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				X

Finding: No Impact. The project does not involve development or construction of any winery or other facility. Therefore, there will be no impact on biological resources.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?				X

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?				X
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?				X
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				X

Finding: No Impact. The project does not involve development or construction of any winery or other facility. Therefore, there will be no impact on cultural resources.

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS -- Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				X
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				X
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?				X
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				X
iv) Landslides?				X
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?				X
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?				X
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?				X
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?				X

Finding: No Impact. The project does not involve development or construction of any winery or other facility. Therefore, there will be no impact on geology or soil resources.

VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS -- Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				X
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				X
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely				X

hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				X

Finding: No Impact. Although some chemicals may be used in the winery, winery wastewater is not hazardous. The General Order specifically prohibits the discharge of waste classified as “hazardous” or “designated” to the storage system.

VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY -- Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?				X
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which General Order have been granted)?				X
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?				X
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?				X
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?				X
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?			X	

g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				X
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				X
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				X
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				X

Finding: Less Than Significant Impact.

- a) By definition, facilities subject to and in compliance with the General Order will not violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, nor will they degrade water quality. Owners or operators of facilities failing to comply with the General Order will be subject to enforcement by the Regional Board.
- b) The project does not involve development or construction of any winery or other facility. Therefore, there will be no impact on the availability of groundwater resources.
- c) The project does not involve development or construction of any winery or other facility. Therefore, there will be no impact on erosion or sedimentation in drainage.
- d) The project does not involve development or construction of any winery or other facility. Therefore, there will be no impact on runoff or drainage flow patterns and rates.
- e) The project does not involve development or construction of any winery or other facility. Therefore, there will be no impact on runoff or drainage flow patterns and rates.
- f) Winery wastewater, if not properly contained and disposed of, has the potential to degrade water quality. However, the General Order protects water quality by providing a mechanism to regulate the storage and disposal of such wastes.
- g) The project does not involve development or construction of any winery or other facility. Therefore, there will be no impact on housing.
- h) The General Order specifically requires design, operation, and maintenance to prevent inundation or washout due to floods with a 100-year return frequency.
- i) The project does not involve development or construction of any winery or other facility. Therefore, there will be no increased exposure to flood losses.
- j) The project does not involve development or construction of any winery or other facility. Therefore, there will be no increased exposure to inundation.

IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING - Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?				X
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				X
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				X

Finding: No Impact. The project does not involve development or construction of any winery or other facility. Therefore, there will be no impact on land use and planning.

X. MINERAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				X
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				X

Finding: No Impact. The project does not involve development or construction of any winery or other facility. Therefore, there will be no impact on mineral resources.

XI. NOISE -- Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				X
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				X
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above existing pre-project levels?				X
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above existing pre-project levels?				X
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X

Finding: No Impact. The operation and maintenance of a wastewater storage tank and periodic transfer of tank contents to trucks will cause, at most, an insignificant increase in noise levels of temporary duration.

XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING -- Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X

Finding: No Impact. The project would not create any wineries and therefore has no potential to directly or indirectly induce population growth, or displace any existing housing or job supply.

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XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES				
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?				X
Police protection?				X
Schools?				X
Parks?				X
Other public facilities?				X

Finding: No Impact. The project would not increase the number of structures, nor require additional public services, nor require new governmental facilities. Therefore, there will be no impacts on public services.

XIV. RECREATION --				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				X
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				X

Finding: No Impact. The project would not increase the use of any recreational facility, nor does it include any such facilities. Therefore, there will be no impact.

XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC -- Would the project:				
a) Cause an increase in traffic that is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?				X
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?				X
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				X
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				X
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				X
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?				X

g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				X
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Finding: No Impact. There will be little or no additional traffic associated with the on-site storage and off-site disposal of winery wastewater. Therefore, there will be no impact.

XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?			X	
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?			X	
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?				X
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				X
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				X
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				X

Finding: Less Than Significant Impact.

- a) Compliance with the requirements for storage and disposal of winery wastewater set forth in the General Order will meet the requirements of the Regional Board. Any violation of the General Order will be subject to enforcement by the Regional Board.
- b) The potential need for construction of new publicly owned wastewater facilities and expansion of existing systems to accommodate the waste disposal needs of wineries is expected to be low. The majority of wineries expected to seek coverage under the General Order are expected to be small wineries with flows of less than 10,000 gallons per month on average. Any publicly owned wastewater treatment facility lacking adequate treatment and disposal capacity would have the right to refuse to accept the waste.
- c) The project would not create any wineries and therefore has no potential to directly or indirectly impact drainage systems.
- d) The project would not create any wineries and therefore has no potential to directly or indirectly water supply.
- e) The potential need for construction of new publicly owned wastewater facilities and expansion of existing systems to accommodate the waste disposal needs of wineries is expected to be low. The majority of wineries expected to seek coverage under the General Order are expected to be small wineries with flows of less than 10,000 gallons per month on average. Any publicly owned wastewater treatment facility lacking adequate treatment and disposal capacity would have the right to refuse to accept the waste.

- f) Solid waste from the winery wastewater (pomace, stems, and lees) will likely be land applied at the individual winery sites as an agricultural amendment. If not, then the General Order calls for disposal in accordance with Title 27 California Code of Regulations, Division 2 or as waived pursuant to California Water Code Section 13269. Such disposal would constitute a tiny fraction of any landfill capacity. Therefore, there will be no impact on landfill capacity. The General Order regulates handling of solid waste by the winery and any violation of the General Order will be subject to enforcement by the Regional Board.
- g) The General Order specifically requires compliance with all applicable solid waste regulations.

XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE --				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?				X
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?				X
c) Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?				X

This project will have no significant impact on the environment or human health, as stated above. This analysis determined that there would be no impact to aesthetics, biological resources, cultural resources, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation, or traffic. Potentially significant impacts were possible, but precluded, for odor and water quality. Nuisance odors and water quality impacts will be avoided by compliance with the General Order. Impacts to landfills, solid waste, and water supplies will be insignificant. The project will not have cumulatively significant effects because compliance with the General Order will effectively mitigate the potential impacts of improper disposal of winery waste. The project will not have impacts on human beings associated with hazards or air quality, and odors will be effectively controlled. Therefore, the quality of the environment will be maintained.